## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

tional Application No PCT/IB 01/02541

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| A. CLASSI<br>IPC 7                                                                                                                                                          | GO3F9/00 GO3F7/20                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                        |                                               |
| According to                                                                                                                                                                | o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classifica                                                                                       | ution and IPC                                                                                                                                          |                                               |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                        |                                               |
| Minimum do<br>IPC 7                                                                                                                                                         | ocumentation searched (classification system followed by classification GO3F H01L                                                                                | on symbols)                                                                                                                                            |                                               |
| Documenta                                                                                                                                                                   | tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s                                                                                              | uch documents are included in the fields se                                                                                                            | arched                                        |
| Electronic d                                                                                                                                                                | lata base consulted during the International search (name of data bas                                                                                            | se and, where practical, search terms used                                                                                                             |                                               |
| EPO-In                                                                                                                                                                      | ternal, PAJ, WPI Data, COMPENDEX, IN                                                                                                                             | ISPEC, IBM-TDB                                                                                                                                         |                                               |
| C. DOCUM                                                                                                                                                                    | ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                        |                                               |
| Calegory °                                                                                                                                                                  | Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the rela                                                                                            | evant passages                                                                                                                                         | Relevant to datm No.                          |
| Α                                                                                                                                                                           | US 5 521 036 A (TATENO HIROKI ET 28 May 1996 (1996-05-28)                                                                                                        | AL)                                                                                                                                                    | 1                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                             | column 10, line 39 - line 67 column 21, line 61 -column 22, li figures 1,2,9                                                                                     | ne 61                                                                                                                                                  | •                                             |
| A                                                                                                                                                                           | EP 0 444 450 A (IBM) 4 September 1991 (1991-09-04) page 5, line 27 -page 6, line 2 page 9, line 43 -page 10, line 6                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 1                                             |
| •                                                                                                                                                                           | figures 1,9                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                        | 1                                             |
| A                                                                                                                                                                           | US 5 414 514 A (MODIANO ALBERTO M<br>9 May 1995 (1995-05-09)<br>column 2, line 52 -column 4, line<br>figures 1-8                                                 | ·                                                                                                                                                      | 1                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                        |                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                        |                                               |
| Fur                                                                                                                                                                         | ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.                                                                                                          | X Patent family members are listed                                                                                                                     | in annex.                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                             | ategories of cited documents :                                                                                                                                   | *T* later document published after the inte<br>or priority date and not in conflict with                                                               |                                               |
| *A* document defining the general state of the land which is not considered to be of particular relevance  *E* earlier document but published on or after the international |                                                                                                                                                                  | cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention  'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention                      |                                               |
| filing date  *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                  | cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to<br>involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone                                    |                                               |
| citatio                                                                                                                                                                     | n is cited to establish the publication date of another<br>on or other special reason (as specified)<br>nent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or | "Y" document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an indocument is combined with one or ments, such combination being obvious. | ventive step when the<br>ore other such docu- |
| other means  *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                  | ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.  *&' document member of the same patent family                                   |                                               |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                  | Date of mailing of the international search report                                                                                                     |                                               |
| 7 June 2002                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                  | 18/06/2002                                                                                                                                             |                                               |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                  | Authorized officer                                                                                                                                     |                                               |
| European Patent Office, P.8. 5818 Patentlaan 2<br>NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk<br>Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,<br>Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016                             |                                                                                                                                                                  | Heryet, C                                                                                                                                              |                                               |
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